

VIA FACSIMILE NO.: 703/872-9326

PATENT
RAP04 P-571A

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Group : 3651
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Serial No. : 09/600,204
Filing Date : July 12, 2000
For : DISPATCH SYSTEM FOR CONTAINERS OF
SORTED MAIL AND METHOD THEREFOR

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

RESPONSE

This is in response to the Office Action mailed September 20, 2001. Enclosed herewith is a petition for a five-month extension of time in order to extend the response due date to March 20, 2002.

Applicants wish to amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 5 of page 5 with the following rewritten paragraph:

B,
Referring now specifically to the drawings, and the illustrative embodiments depicted therein, a high throughput dispatch system 20 as illustrated in Fig. 3 may include a plurality of dispatch subsystems 22. The number of subsystems may be selected according to the particular application. In the illustrated embodiment, mail is sorted onto trays using conventional sorting equipment (not shown) and delivered to a merge area 24, shown in phantom, which feeds a sortation subsystem 26, also shown in phantom, which diverts individual trays of sorted mail to each dispatch subsystem 22 as well as to one or more